

**State of New Hampshire  
Office of Licensed Allied Professionals  
Occupational Therapy Governing Board  
Concord, New Hampshire**

In the Matter of:  
Angela L. Laplante, OTA  
(Application for Initial Licensure)

**ORDER OF CONDITIONAL DENIAL**

This Order concerns the September 24, 2007 application before the Occupational Therapy Governing Board ("Board") submitted by Ms. Angela L. Laplante, OTA ("Ms. Laplante" "Applicant") for a license to practice as an occupational therapy assistant in the State of New Hampshire. On this application Ms. Laplante stated her current name of Angela L. Laplante and two (2) aliases, Toagood and Dabney. Ms. Laplante also stated that she held licensure in Texas, Washington, Oregon, New Mexico, and Wyoming.

Upon initial review of the application it was noted that Ms. Laplante marked "No" to the question "Have you been found guilty or entered a plea of no contest to any felony or misdemeanor?"

On September 1, 2008 a "Criminal Record Release Authorization Form" was received from the New Hampshire State Police. The report indicated "no records found". This report listed all three (3) of Ms. Laplante's names.

On September 19, 2008 a "Criminal History Report" was received from the State of Washington. The report indicated that "there is no conviction criminal history record information in the Washington State Patrol Identification and Criminal History Section files". The report listed two of Ms. Laplante's three (3) names, Laplante and Dabney.

On September 22, 2008 a "Criminal History Inquiry" was received from the State of Wyoming which indicated that Ms. Laplante had a misdemeanor conviction for "destruction/defacement of property". This criminal history report listed only the name Angela Lisa Laplante.

On September 24, 2008 a "Criminal History Record" was received from the State of Oregon which indicated that Ms. Laplante had a conviction for "driving under influence intoxic". This criminal history report was received with all three (3) names listed.

On September 24, 1008 a criminal history report was received from the state of New Mexico. The report indicated "no record". This criminal history report listed only the name Angela Lisa Laplante.

On September 25, 2008 an updated criminal history report was faxed by Ms. Laplante from the State of Washington. The report indicated "there is no conviction criminal history record information in the Washington State Patrol Identification and Criminal History Section files". The report listed all three (3) of Ms. Laplante's names.

The Board's administrative rule, Occ 302.04(1) requires a criminal offender record from each state "where the applicant has been licensed or has resided within the past 6 years to be sent directly to the board or to the applicant to be forwarded to the board."

On September 15, 2008 the Board's office received a phone call from Ms. Laplante who was checking on the status of her application. During her phone conversation with the Board's executive secretary, Traci Weber, Ms. Laplante was given a verbal clarification of the difference between a letter of reference and a criminal background check. Ms. Laplante indicated to the Board's executive secretary, Traci Weber, that she had two things in her past that she was not proud of. She was informed that she had not indicated any criminal history on her application. She stated "well, I'm not proud of these things and they were a long time ago". The Board's executive secretary, Traci Weber told her she would have to put an explanation of the circumstances in writing to the Board and explain to the Board why she had not answered the question "Have you been found guilty or entered a plea of no contest to any felony or misdemeanor" with a "Yes". The Board's executive secretary, Traci Weber wrote a detailed note of this conversation and placed it in Ms. Laplante's file which was later provided to the Board.

On September 16, 2008 the Board's office received a letter from Ms. Laplante indicating the fact that she had two (2) items on her criminal background check. Her explanation was inconsistent with the explanation given over the phone to the Board's executive secretary, Traci Weber.

Under RSA 328-F and RSA 326-C, the Board is charged with ensuring that all Occupational Therapist Assistants provide services that are effective and of a quality consistent with the standard of care under the profession and to safeguard the public

against harm which may be caused by unqualified, impaired or unlicensed professionals. Under RSA 328-F:5, I and VII, the Board has a duty to carry out the responsibilities set forth in the Board's practice act and issue licenses only to persons who are eligible. Occ 302.02(a) Effect of Notarized Signature states "The effect of the applicant's notarized signature on part 2 of the form shall be: (a) The applicant's acknowledgement that knowingly making a false statement on the application for is a misdemeanor under RSA 641:2, I;"

The Board reviewed the application at its regularly scheduled September Board meeting, held on September 29, 2008 and voted to deny this application.

THEREFORE IT IS ORDERED that the application of Angela Laplante, OTA for licensure to practice be denied effective 12:01 A.M. October 16, 2008, unless prior to November 17, 2008, the Board receives a written request for a hearing; and

IT IS FURTHERED ORDERED, that receipt of a timely filed hearing request shall temporarily void this Order and a further Order shall be issued in due course in which the Board establishes the date and time of a hearing and specifies the issues to be heard; and:

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, any hearing held in response to this Order shall be conducted pursuant to RSA 326-E, RSA 328-F and RSA 541-A: 31, and the burden of proof shall be upon the Applicant. The Applicant may request to be heard on any relevant matter of law or fact, but an evidentiary hearing shall be conducted only to the extent the Applicant has identified disputed factual issues which require resolution.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD\*

DATE: October 15, 2008

Tina M Kelly  
Tina M. Kelly  
Authorized Representative of the Board

Board Members:

- Eileen Thayer, OT, Chair
- Carol Lewis, OT
- Barbara D. Richardson
- Roberta A. Daw, OTA